

WISCONSIN STATEWIDE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM UPDATE

Office of Student Assessment

ESSA Waiver Hearing

Under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the number of students who may take the alternate assessment is limited to no more than 1 percent of the total of all students in the state who are assessed in a given subject. States are required to seek a waiver of this cap if anticipated that the state will exceed the 1 percent cap. The department anticipates the cap will be exceeded for the 2017-18 school year and is requesting a waiver from the secretary of the United States Department of Education (ED). The department is seeking public input as part of this process. Please see the [DPI website](#) for more information.

OSA Office Hours Webinar

Thank you for joining the September OSA Office Hours webinar. The OSA team appreciates the opportunity to connect with you on assessment-related topics. Please visit the [DAC Resources & Trainings webpage](#) for the PowerPoint slides and the archived webinar. The PowerPoint slides and webinar are now posted. The next office hours is scheduled for **November 16** from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Forward Exam

Opportunity to Provide Feedback on Performance Level Descriptors

Performance Level Descriptors (PLDs) provide an overview of the knowledge, skills, and abilities of students at specific performance levels — Below Basic, Basic, Proficient, and Advanced — on the Forward Exam. PLDs have been drafted for grades 3-8 in English language arts and mathematics and are now posted for public review and comment. You can find the draft PLDs and a survey to provide feedback at the following link: <https://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/forward/data#PLDs>.

Reminder:

2018 Forward Exam District Technology Coordinator (DTC) Training

The first DTC training webinar was held on Wednesday, October 25, and over 200 DTCs attended the training. A second webinar on Wednesday November 1st (that was a repeat of the 1st) had approximately 120 DTCs in attendance. The webinar was recorded and will be available on the [Forward Exam Technology Requirements webpage](#) on November 3 for anyone who was not able to attend the live webinars. Technology readiness resources are now available on the [Forward Exam Technology Requirements webpage](#).

DTCs please mark your calendars for the following:

- January 17, 2018 - Refresher technology training/Q&A
- February 14, 2018 - Technology Q&A
- March 14, 2018 - Technology Q&A

TTS/Read Aloud Accommodation Change

New this year is a change to the Text-to-Speech (TTS)/read aloud accommodation for the Forward Exam. The TTS/read aloud **accommodation** allows the student to listen to ELA test information displayed on the screen, including test directions, questions, answer choices, and **ELA reading passages**. This accommodation may only be provided to a student with visual impairments who is not proficient in contracted Braille, whose need is documented in an IEP or 504 plan and has met all five criteria on the *Guidelines for Administration of the TTS/Read Aloud Accommodation for the Forward Exam* form. Students who do not meet this criteria, but require TTS or read aloud, should use the designated support, including those with IEP or 504 plans. TTS/read aloud designated support allows the student to listen to test information displayed on the screen, including test directions, questions, and answer choices for all content areas (just not the ELA session 4 reading passages). The *Guidelines for Administration of the TTS/Read Aloud Accommodation for the Forward Exam* form and more information **is now available** in the 2017-18 Accessibility Guide.

Updated Important note: DACs should *remove permissions from and make inactive* any individuals in eDIRECT who are no longer employed by the district and adjust user roles to sync with recent staffing changes.

Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)

Reminder:

Required Test Administration Training- All District Assessment Coordinators have now been added to [Moodle](#) as facilitated trainers. Please see the [Guide to the DLM Required Test Administration Training](#) for login information. **Teachers who have moved districts or changed their emails should contact the [DLM Helpdesk](#) to merge their Moodle accounts. They will need to provide their old email address as well as their new email address.**

All test administrators (anyone with a 'teacher' role in Educator Portal) must complete the required training prior to administering the DLM assessment and the optional instructional assessments (Instructional Tools Interface or ITI).

- Returning test administrators will be required to complete a refresher module and quiz as well as a science module and quiz (approximately 1 hour and 25 minutes).
- New test administrators within the DLM system will be expected to complete four required modules and quizzes (approximately 3 hours). The training modules are now available. We encourage test administrators to complete their training as early as possible and to not wait until the test window to complete the modules.

KITE® Client is the secure browser used by students taking Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) assessments. Please ensure that the most recent version of KITE Client is installed on devices. For new devices that have never had KITE Client installed, please see the instructions for downloading KITE 5.0 on the DLM website under the [KITE Suite](#) heading. For devices that have a previous version of KITE Client (version 3.0 was used during the 2016-17 school year), the KITE Client interface will be automatically updated to KITE Client 5.0 for the 2017-18 school year.

- Auto-update will be prompted when the device is powered on, connected to the internet, and KITE Client is launched.
- Auto-update went out August 31, 2017.
- After the update is downloaded, the user will be prompted to restart the KITE Client.

The auto-update takes about 10 minutes. Be sure to allow enough time for the auto-update.

School Assessment Type - Alternate (SATA)

In an effort to more accurately identify students anticipated to take the DLM alternate assessment under the new ESSA participation cap, we are asking districts to utilize the Student Characteristic SATA in WISEdata. The department began including additional validations around this indicator on October 12, 2017. All students taking the alternate assessment (DLM) must qualify as a student with the most significant cognitive disabilities as outlined below.

In Wisconsin, a student with the most significant cognitive disability:

- typically is characterized as functioning at least two and a half to three standard deviations below the mean in both adaptive behavior and cognitive functioning; **and**
- performs substantially below grade level expectations on the academic content standards for the grade in which they are enrolled, even with the use of adaptations and accommodations; **and**
- requires extensive, direct individualized instruction and substantial supports to achieve measurable gains, across all content areas and settings.

Only a student who meets these criteria and participates in the alternate academic achievement standards may take the alternate assessment.

ACT HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS

ACT with writing and WorkKeys

Schedule of Events

- The [Schedule of Events](#) for ACT and WorkKeys is now available.
- It is linked on the [DPI ACT Calendar page](#) and the [ACT WI page](#).
- [What's New with State Testing](#) and [State Testing Terms](#) documents are also posted.

Communications to DACs from ACT

- On October 23, ACT (StateTesting@act.org) sent a "Welcome to State Testing" email to 2017 test coordinators and current DACs.
- If you did not receive this email, please contact jennifer.bell@dpi.wi.gov
- Upcoming emails from StateTesting@act.org coming the week of November 6 will include: *Manage Contacts and Participation in PearsonAccess^{Next}* and *Request Accommodations and Supports in TAA System*.

Managing School Test Coordinator Contact Information

- StateTesting@act.org will send an email to DACs and test coordinators the week of November 6 with a link and instructions on how to access PearsonAccess^{Next}.
- **DACs will then be able to log into the 2018 PearsonAccess^{Next} (PA^{Next}) portal to manage test coordinator contact information and add additional PA^{Next} users if needed.**
- Instructions for managing test coordinator contacts for ACT and WorkKeys will be available in the PearsonAccess^{Next} User Guide for the ACT. ACT has not posted the Guide yet, but once posted, it will be linked two places:
 - On the [ACT WI page](#) under “2. Configuration”
 - On the [DPI ACT Resources page](#) under “PearsonAccess^{Next} Guides”

Save the Dates for ACT and WorkKeys Test Administration Q&A Webinars - November 30 and January 18

- There will be two webinar Q&A sessions on ACT and WorkKeys test administration.
- The topics will be different at each session, so **test coordinators should view both webinars.**
- Webinars will be recorded and posted to the [DPI ACT Trainings page](#) and [ACT WI page](#).
- Please share these dates with test coordinators in your district. Registration links coming soon.
 - November 30, 2:00 p.m.: ACT Test Orientation, Configuration, Verification, and Preparation
 - January 18, 2:00 p.m.: ACT Test Administration, Transportation, and Interpretation

Reminder

Registration Open for the Accommodations Q&A Training Session Webinar - November 8

- ACT test coordinators and test accommodations coordinators should plan to attend the Accommodations Q&A Training Session via webinar on Wednesday, November 8 at 10:00 a.m.
- Register at this link: <https://act.ilinc.com/register/htcwkph>

Reading Readiness

Reading Readiness Results

- DPI will load 2017-18 PALS, MAP and STAR reading readiness results to WISEdash for Districts. Districts who had student data loaded for these screeners in 2016-17 will continue to have their data loaded in 2017-18. Districts that did not previously sign a data release will need to do so in order to have their data uploaded into WISEdash. Information on data sharing agreements can be found at:
 - PALS - <https://dpi.wi.gov/assessment/reading-readiness/FAQ#data>
 - MAP - <https://dpi.wi.gov/wisedash/districts/about-data/map>
 - Star - <https://dpi.wi.gov/wisedash/districts/about-data/star>

ACCESS for ELLs

New

- ACCESS Test Setup
 - You will be able to view students and download rosters within the next week.
 - You will be able to upload new students, modify test sessions, and add accommodations starting November 27.

- You may export your students and begin modifying the upload file as soon as students are visible in your district. However, you will not be able to upload this file until November 27.

Reminders

- ACCESS Materials
 - Orders were calculated automatically on November 1.
 - Districts will receive these orders on November 30.
 - DRC will ship extra materials this year to cut down on additional orders.
 - Please share materials between schools in your district before ordering more.
 - Return any unused materials at the end of the test window.
 - Additional materials can be ordered November 30 - February 2 with 2-day shipping.
- Technology
 - The 2017-18 Technology User Guide can be found on the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 [technology page](#).
 - The Device Toolkit has been revamped and updated. A tutorial and demo are available [here](#).
 - WIDA AMS resources, including the new user guide and short how-to videos, are now available through the “[WIDA AMS](#)” selection on the Assessment drop-down menu on the [main WIDA webpage](#).
 - TSM and INSIGHT are available in the [WIDA-AMS](#) under General Information > Technology Downloads.
 - INSIGHT is the same for Forward, ACCESS, and the WIDA Screener. Existing installs should auto-update when launched.
 - There are separate TSMs for Forward and ACCESS/WIDA Screener. Ensure that the ACCESS TSM 9.2 is installed and connected through the COS - Device Toolkit.
- Training
 - The 2017-18 Test Administrator’s Manual and District and School Test Coordinator’s Manual can be found on the “[Preparation and Training](#)” tab on the [ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 webpage](#).
 - There is a new tab on the ACCESS for ELLs 2.0 page, “[Preparing Students](#),” with resources educators can use to get their students ready for testing.
 - Staff need an account on the [wida.us](#) website to access training.
- Calendar for year posted [here](#).

NAEP and International Assessments

(selected schools only)

Reminder

- Schools selected for TIMSS and ICILS: If you haven't already, please send angela.dugas@dpi.wi.gov an email indicating who will be the designated school coordinator for the assessment. Later this week, Angela will start contacting principals she hasn't heard from.

Civics Graduation Requirement Examination Change

- As part of 2017 Wisconsin Act 59, the minimum passing score on the civics test for high school graduation set forth by [Wis. Stat. 118.33\(1m\)\(a\)1](#) was increased from 60 to 65 out of 100. The way the law currently reads, current students who have not obtained a score of at least 65 are ineligible to receive a high school diploma. This means that students who previously scored between 60 and 64, but have not yet received a diploma will be required to retake the civics test to obtain this new statutory minimum. The DPI does not believe the legislature intended to nullify scores previously considered passing prior to Act 59. Therefore, the DPI will work with the legislature to amend the current language under Wis. Stat. s. 118.33(1m)(a)1 to apply the higher-score requirement under Act 59 to only those students who had not already obtained a passing score prior to September 23, 2017, the effective date of Act 59.

Please consider waiting for further details on this potential legislative amendment before requiring students to retake the civics graduation requirement exam.

DAC DIGEST DIGESTIBLES

Important Dates to Remember		
October	2-Nov 1: Upload private school pre-ID files.	ACCESS
	15: NAEP school coordinators complete <i>Provide School Information</i> form on MyNAEP	NAEP
	25: Forward Technology training webinar	Forward
	30: Forward Accessibility Guide available	Forward
November	1: Forward Technology training webinar	Forward
	1: Forward Technology User Guide and additional resources available	Forward
	1-30: Complete Test Administrator (TA) training	ACCESS
	1-30: Install ACCESS TSM 9.2, update INSIGHT. Test Installations.	ACCESS
	1-30: Schedule time for students to take practice tests, especially the speaking test.	ACCESS
	3: DTC training recorded webinar available	Forward
	6: Window for submitting ACT accommodations requests in TAA opens. Window for managing test coordinator contacts, managing school participation, and selecting materials shipping dates opens in PearsonAccessNext.	ACT
	8: Test coordinators attend Accommodations Q&A Training Session webinar, 10 a.m.	ACT/WorkKeys
	22: Accessibility Training available	Forward

	27: Test Session, Accommodations Setup Opens	ACCESS
	30: Test Materials Arrive & Additional materials window opens	ACCESS
	30: Ensure software up-to-date, run final system readiness checks	ACCESS
	30: Test coordinators attend Test Administration Q&A Webinar "Orientation, Configuration, Verification, & Preparation", 2:00 p.m.	ACT/WorkKeys
December	1: Deadline to manage school participation and choose ship dates for test materials	ACT/WorkKeys
	4: Test window opens	ACCESS
	4: Window to order WorkKeys accommodated materials opens	WorkKeys
	20: Braille materials order window opens	FORWARD

Important Tasks to Remember	
<input type="checkbox"/> Upload private school Pre-ID files to WIDA-AMS if necessary.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Check Webinar Calendar and schedule time to view.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Install software.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure staff train, pass quizzes.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Plan for student test practice.	ACCESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Look for score report information in Educator Portal . Mail home to parents as soon as possible. <i>Please share with teachers as appropriate.</i>	DLM
<input type="checkbox"/> Ensure relevant team members are aware of the information regarding reading readiness assessment at Reading Readiness Overview and Reading Readiness FAQ .	Reading Readiness
<input type="checkbox"/> Bookmark the DPI ACT webpage and ACT Wisconsin webpage .	ACT/WorkKeys
<input type="checkbox"/> Review the ACT accommodations resources: List of Allowable Accessibility Supports , ACT Policy for Accommodations Documentation , ACT Policy for EL Documentation	ACT
<input type="checkbox"/> Encourage school test coordinators to register for the Accommodations Q&A training webinar: https://act.ilinc.com/register/htcwkph	ACT/WorkKeys
<input type="checkbox"/> Encourage school test coordinators to save the dates for the two test administration webinar Q&A sessions.	ACT/WorkKeys

Online Resource Highlights		
<i>As new resources are posted to our website, we will include them here for your convenience. This is NOT an exhaustive list, but meant to highlight resources with significant relevance to our upcoming test windows.</i>		
Resource	Description	Assessment
Accessibility Guide	The guide contains information for classroom teachers, English development educators, special education teachers, and related services personnel as they select and administer universal tools, designated supports, and accommodations for those students who need them for the Forward Exam.	Forward
Managing Users in eDIRECT Guide	Guide to help DACs/SACs manage users in eDIRECT portal.	
Technology Resources	Forward Exam Technology Resources including the Technology User Guide, DTC Checklist, System Requirements, etc.	
Forward Calendar Webpage	DPI webpage listing key dates for the Forward Exam	

DLM Data and Results	DPI webpage with links to sample ISR cover letters and resources for understanding DLM Reports	DLM
Schedule of Events	Schedule of test administration dates for ACT and WorkKeys	ACT/WorkKeys
What's New with State Testing	Summary document highlighting what is new in 2018 with WI state ACT testing.	
State Testing Terms	Glossary of state testing terminology helpful for new DACs and test coordinators.	
Extended Time Policy Change	Details and FAQs on the Extended Time Policy Change	ACT
ACCESS for ELLs Calendar	Provides an overview of relevant 2017-18 dates	ACCESS
Standard Setting Impacts	Information on the score changes starting 2016-17	
Report Card Resources	Various resources to assist in understanding, explaining, and using the 2015-16 school and district report card data	OEA